

May 13, 1999

Commissioner Jane E. Henney
5600 Fishers La.
Rockville, MD 20857

7743 '99 JUL 12 AIO :04

Dear Commissioner Jane E. Henney:

I agree with the FDA's decision to allow food to be irradiated. I think that it will save many lives. I have researched irradiation and I have come up with the following reasons that persuaded me to agree.

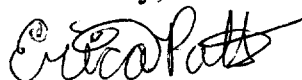
For example, it has never been documented that irradiation has harmed anyone on the job or if someone ate food that has been through the process of irradiation. Some people think that it is as dangerous as radiation. It actually isn't the same at all. *The Washington Times* stated that irradiation is endorsed by many small companies and groups.

There is no scientific proof that irradiation is a risky procedure. The food that has been through the procedure of irradiation does not become radioactive, but some people consider as true that it does. It actually doesn't change the flavor or taste of the food at all.

The Dallas Morning News said, "Irradiation is the only known method for killing harmful bacteria." It kills E. Coli and it reduces levels of listeria, salmonella, and campylobacter bacteria.

Those are my reasons for agreeing with the FDA's decision to allow foods to be irradiated. It is a safe way to kill bacteria and save many lives. It makes me feel good to know that Americans can now eat safer foods. Irradiation will save many lives!

Sincerely,



Erica Potts

98N 1038

C3299

Erica Potts
6311 Wilson La.
Bethesda, MD 20817

Synthia Jenkins
Ofc. of Consumer Affairs
~~Commissioner Jane E. Henney~~
FDA (HFE-88)
5600 Fishers La.
Rockville MD 20857

